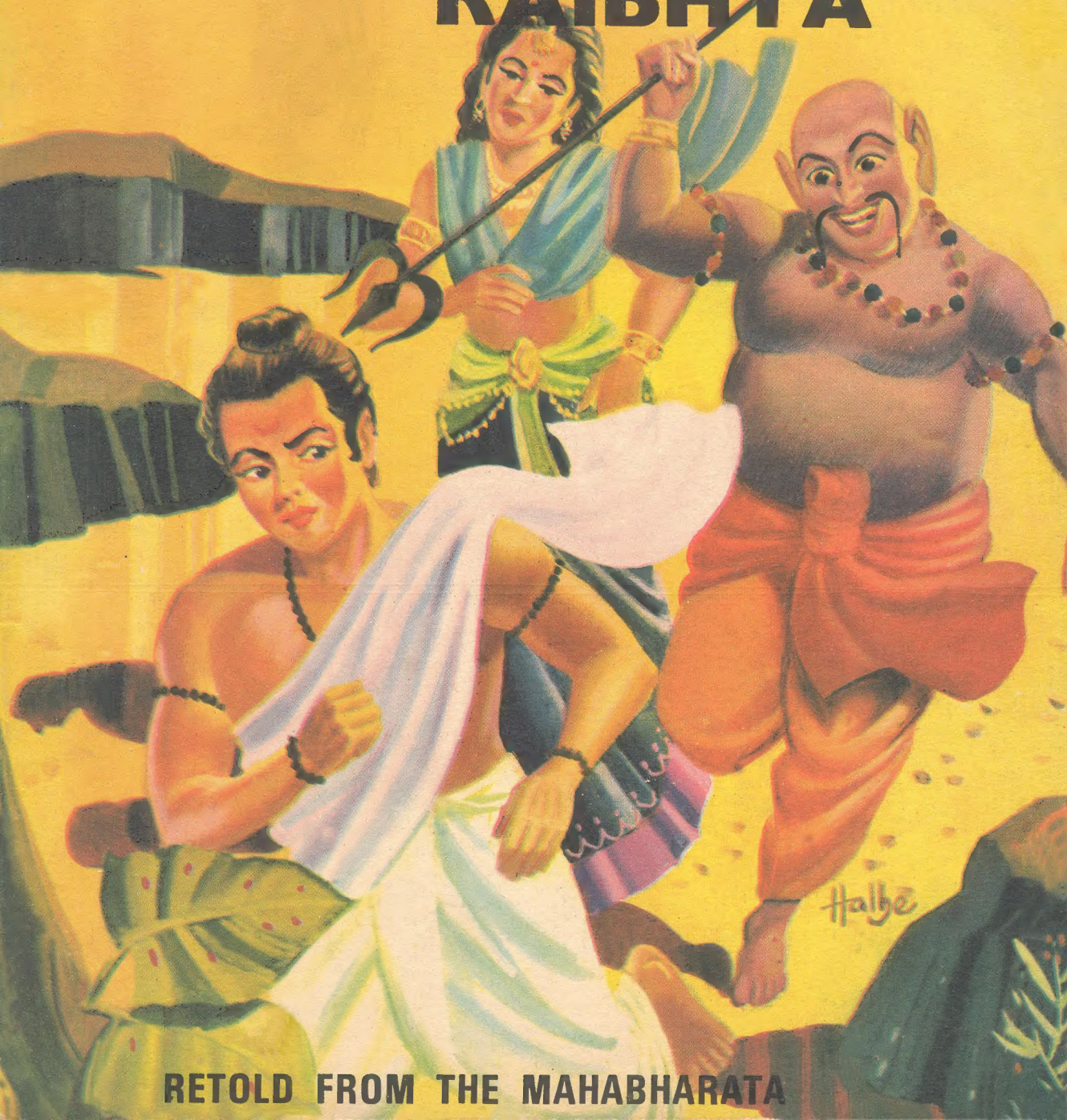




THE SONS OF **BHARADWAJA** AND **RAIBHYA**



RETOLD FROM THE MAHABHARATA

Pride and arrogance have always been disastrous attributes in the mental make-up of man. Very often people have unusual talents and intellectual abilities. But the moment the hateful worm of arrogance creeps in, it eats up the virtues and renders the personality hollow and superficial.

This is the story of Yavakrida, the son of Bharadwaja and Parvavasu and Arvavasu, the sons of Raibhya. It amply illustrates their downfall due to arrogance and deceit. But no penance or worship of the Lord can go waste, and the story takes an unexpected turn, culminating in their revival.

Our next title :

VEDA VYASA

Editor : D. Kumar

Art Work : Vasant B. Halbe

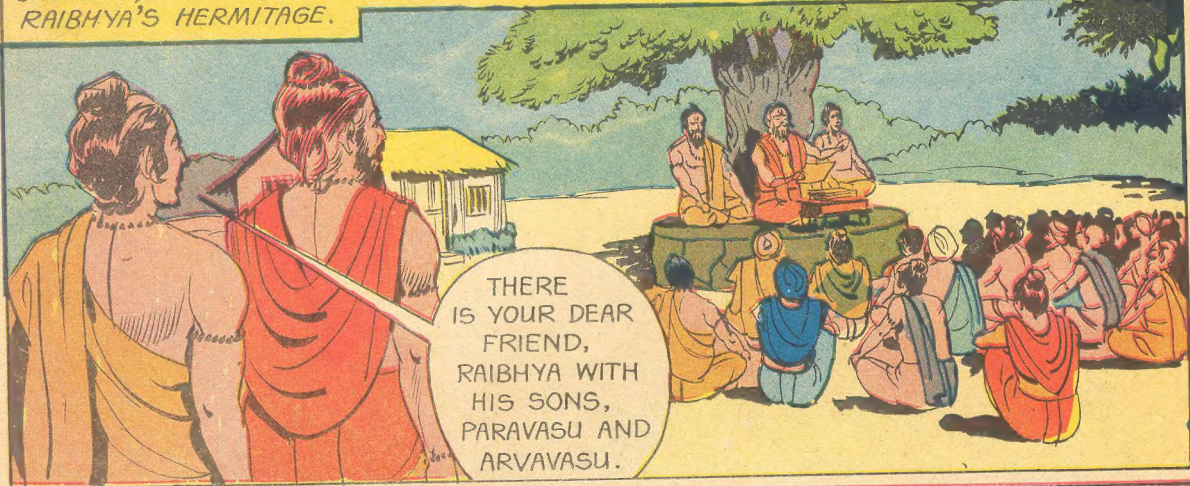
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YAVAKRIDA



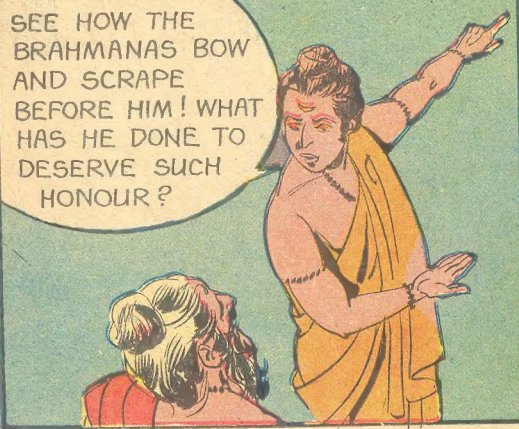
BHARADWAJA AND RAIBHYA, TWO LEARNED SAGES, WERE VERY GOOD FRIENDS. WHILE BHARADWAJA SPENT HIS TIME IN THE CONTEMPLATION OF GOD, RAIBHYA WHO SERVED THE PEOPLE BY HIS LEARNING WAS HIGHLY RESPECTED BY THE BRAHMANAS.

ONE DAY, SAGE BHARADWAJA ALONG WITH HIS SON YAVAKRIDA PAID A VISIT TO RAIBHYA'S HERMITAGE.



YAVAKRIDA WAS NOT HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE BRAHMANAS PAID MORE RESPECT TO RAIBHYA THAN TO HIS FATHER WHO WAS EQUALLY LEARNED.

SEE HOW THE BRAHMANAS BOW AND SCRAPE BEFORE HIM! WHAT HAS HE DONE TO DESERVE SUCH HONOUR?



NOBODY GIVES YOU OR ME SO MUCH RESPECT.



DO NOT GRUDGE HIM HIS DUE, MY SON.

RAIBHYA AND HIS SONS ARE SCHOLARS, WELL-VERSED IN THE VEDIC LORE.



THEN I TOO SHALL GAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE VEDAS AND EARN THE RESPECT OF THE BRAHMANAS.

YAVAKRIDA SET OUT TO BECOME A SCHOLAR,
BUT INSTEAD OF SEEKING OUT A TEACHER,
HE BEGAN TO PRACTISE SEVERE AUSTERITIES.



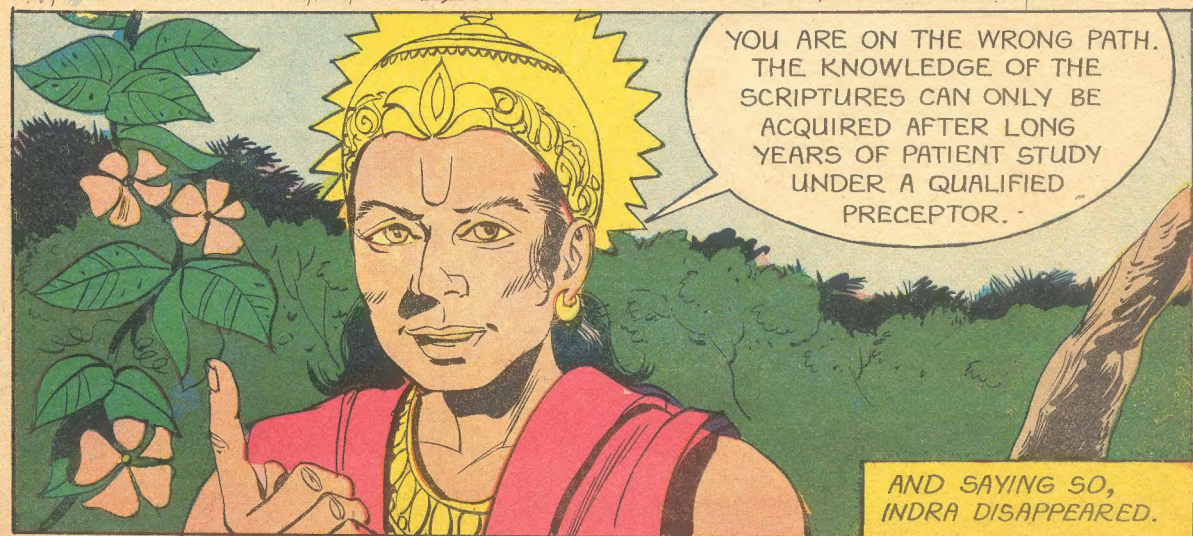
THEN ONE DAY INDRA APPEARED BEFORE HIM —

YOUR AUSTERITIES HAVE
PLEASED ME. WHAT DO
YOU SEEK, O BRAHMANA ?

LORD! I SEEK
KNOWLEDGE. PLEASE
GIVE ME COMPLETE
AND DIRECT KNOWLEDGE
OF THE VEDAS.



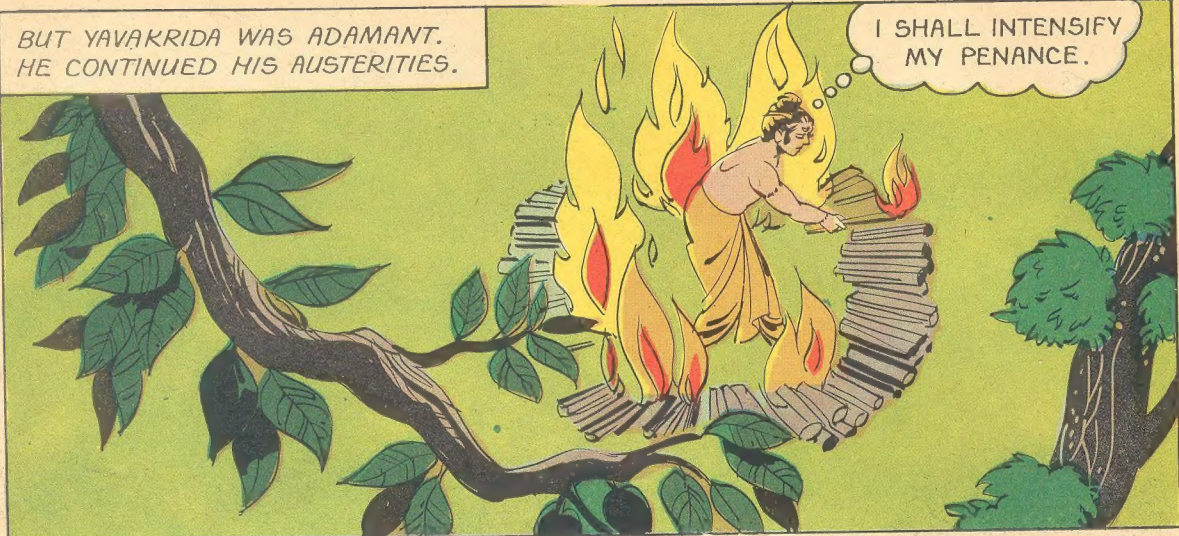
YOU ARE ON THE WRONG PATH.
THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE
SCRIPTURES CAN ONLY BE
ACQUIRED AFTER LONG
YEARS OF PATIENT STUDY
UNDER A QUALIFIED
PRECEPTOR.



AND SAYING SO,
INDRA DISAPPEARED.

BUT YAVAKRIDA WAS ADAMANT.
HE CONTINUED HIS AUSTERITIES.

I SHALL INTENSIFY
MY PENANCE.



WHEN HE BEGAN TO INFLICT THE MOST SEVERE PUNISHMENTS ON HIMSELF, INDRA
WAS HORRIFIED AND HAD TO COME DOWN ONCE AGAIN.

WHY ARE YOU SO
STUBBORN?

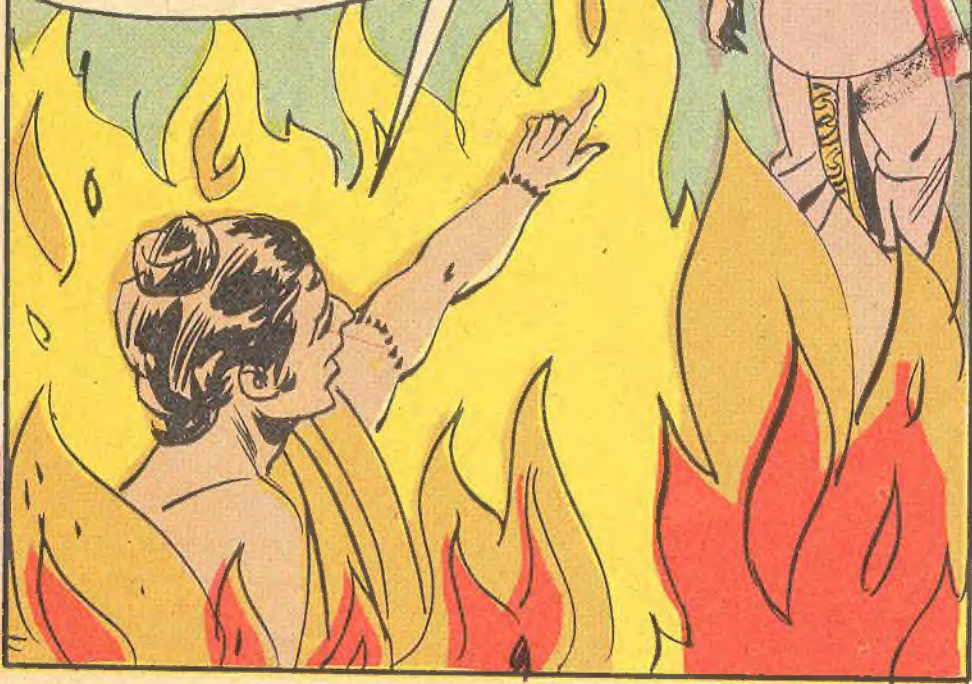
LORD! IT TAKES
A LONG TIME TO
STUDY THE VEDAS.
I, THEREFORE, IMPORE
YOU ONCE AGAIN
TO GRANT MY
DESIRE.



GIVE UP THESE VAIN AUSTERITIES.
GO AND STUDY INSTEAD. REAL
KNOWLEDGE CANNOT BE ACQUIRED
BY MORTIFYING THE BODY.



IF YOU DO NOT GRANT MY PRAYER, I WILL CUT PIECES OF MY FLESH AND THROW THEM INTO THE FIRE.

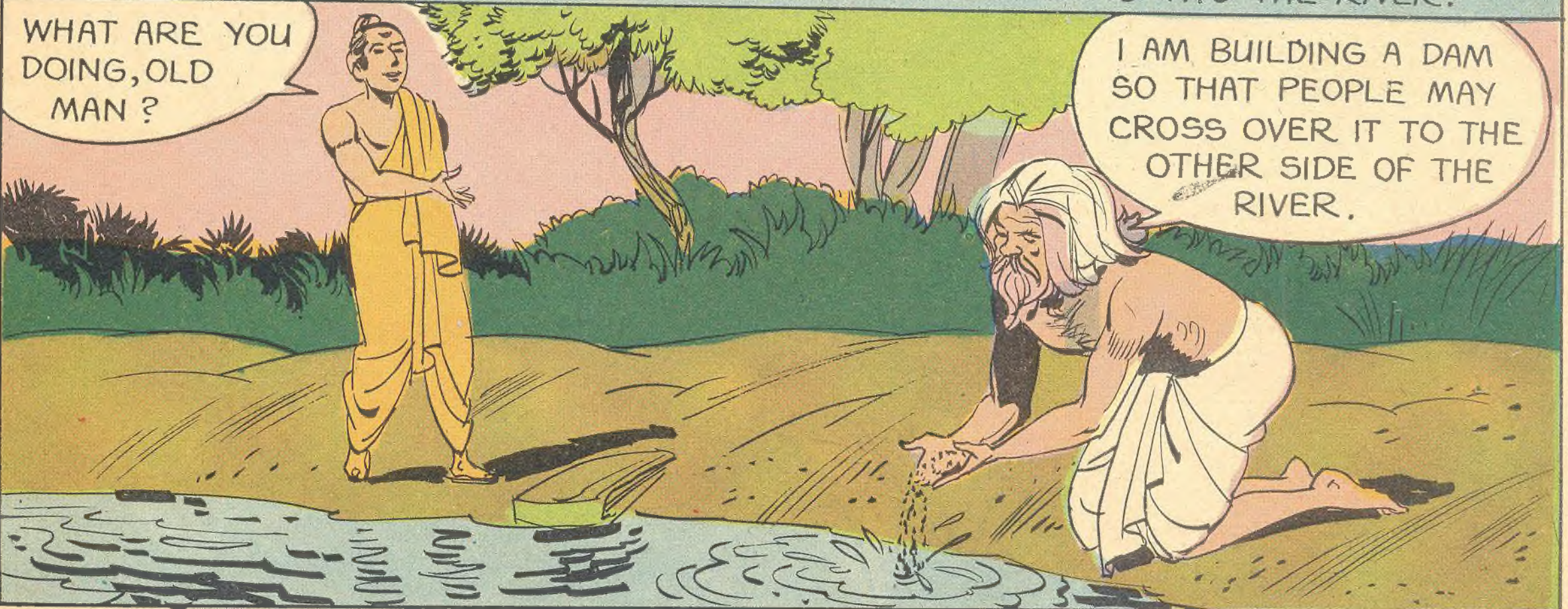


YAVAKRIDA'S PENANCE BEGAN TO HINDER THE FUNCTION OF THE GODS. THEY HELD A MEETING.



NEXT MORNING WHEN YAVAKRIDA WENT DOWN TO THE GANGES TO BATHE, HE SAW AN OLD MAN SITTING ON THE BANK, THROWING HANDFULS OF SAND INTO THE RIVER.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OLD MAN?



I AM BUILDING A DAM SO THAT PEOPLE MAY CROSS OVER IT TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER.

YAVAKRIDA WAS AMUSED AT THE OLD MAN'S ANSWER.

HOW CAN YOU BUILD A DAM THAT WAY? SEE HOW STRONG THE CURRENT IS. YOUR ATTEMPT IS BOUND TO PROVE FUTILE.



NOT AS FUTILE AS YOUR ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE VEDAS WITHOUT STUDYING THEM.

YOU ARE INDRA!

LORD ! GRANT ME THE BOON
I SEEK... AS A PERSONAL
FAVOUR... PLEASE...

YAVAKRIDA STUDIED THE VEDAS AND BECAME A
LEARNED SCHOLAR. HE, HOWEVER, BECAME VAIN WITH
THE THOUGHT THAT HE HAD ACQUIRED HIS KNOWLEDGE
THROUGH INDRA'S FAVOUR.

ALL RIGHT ! I CAN
NO LONGER DENY
YOU. GO AND STUDY
THE VEDAS. YOU
WILL BECOME
LEARNED.

SOON AFTER, HIS FATHER WARNED HIM —

DO NOT LET YOUR KNOWLEDGE
CORRUPT YOU, MY SON. TAKE SPECIAL
CARE THAT YOU DO NOT OFFEND
RAIBHYA. HE IS A POWERFUL
MAN.

LISTEN TO THE STORY
OF MEDHAVI WHICH WILL
ENLIGHTEN YOU ABOUT
WHAT I WISH
TO TELL YOU.

"MEDHAVI WAS AN INTELLIGENT BUT ARROGANT YOUTH."

OUT OF MY WAY, FOOLS!

DO NOT BOTHER TO CURSE ME AND LOSE THE POWER OF YOUR PENANCE. I'M IMMORTAL... HA, HA, HA !

HE'S RIGHT. HE'S THE SON OF THE GREAT SAGE, BALADHI.

BALADHI PLEASED THE GODS WITH HIS PENANCES AND THEY PROMISED HIM THAT HIS SON WOULD LIVE AS LONG AS THAT MOUNTAIN STOOD.

"MEDHAVI WANDERED AROUND, FLAUNTING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND INSULTING THE SAGES. THEN ONE DAY HE COMMITTED AN UNPARDONABLE SIN BY OFFENDING THE GREAT SAGE DHANUSHAKSHA. DHANUSHAKSHA WAS ENRAGED —"

DO YOU KNOW THAT I CAN
REDUCE YOU TO ASHES WITH
ONE GLANCE.

TRY!

DO YOUR WORST,
OLD MAN.

I AM INVINCIBLE
AS LONG AS THAT
MOUNTAIN STANDS.

REALLY! THEN IT
SHALL NOT STAND
MUCH LONGER.

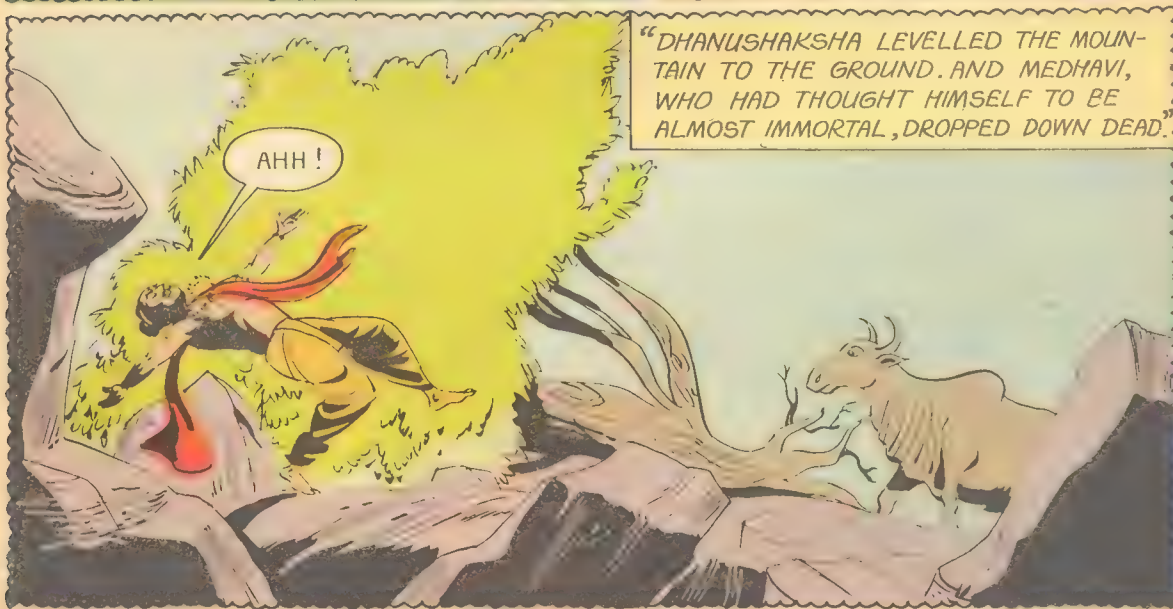
"DHANUSHAKSHA TRANSFORMED HIMSELF INTO A HUGE BUFFALO..."

HUH!

"...AND RUSHED AT THE MOUNTAIN AND STARTED BATTERING IT WITH HIS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. THE MOUNTAIN BEGAN TO CRUMBLE."



"DHANUSHAKSHA LEVELLED THE MOUNTAIN TO THE GROUND. AND MEDHAVI, WHO HAD THOUGHT HIMSELF TO BE ALMOST IMMORTAL, DROPPED DOWN DEAD."



BHARADWAJA CONCLUDED HIS STORY —

LEARN WISDOM FROM THE
LEGEND, MY SON. RAIBHYA
IS NO LESS POWERFUL
THAN DHANUSHAKSHA.

DON'T WORRY,
FATHER ! I RESPECT
RAIBHYA AS MUCH
AS YOU DO.

BUT YAVAKRIDA SOON FORGOT HIS FATHER'S WARNING. HIS KNOWLEDGE GAVE HIM
A SENSE OF POWER AND HE BECAME VAIN AND ARROGANT. ONE DAY AS HE WAS
PASSING RAIBHYA'S HERMITAGE —

THAT IS PARAVASU'S
WIFE. WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL WOMAN !

I CANNOT TAKE MY EYES
OFF HER. THERE, SHE
HAS SEEN ME.

ARE YOU
ALONE ?

YES ! BUT
WHY DO YOU
ASK ?

COME
WITH ME !

WHERE ?

DON'T BE
AFRAID !

WHAT ARE YOU
DOING ? LET
ME GO !

DON'T RESIST ME OR I
SHALL LAY MY
CURSE ON YOU .

WHEN RAIBHYA, WHO WAS AWAY, RETURNED TO HIS HERMITAGE IN THE EVENING, HE FOUND HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW IN TEARS.

WHAT IS THE
MATTER? WHY ARE
YOU WEeping?

I AM ASHAMED
TO TELL YOU.

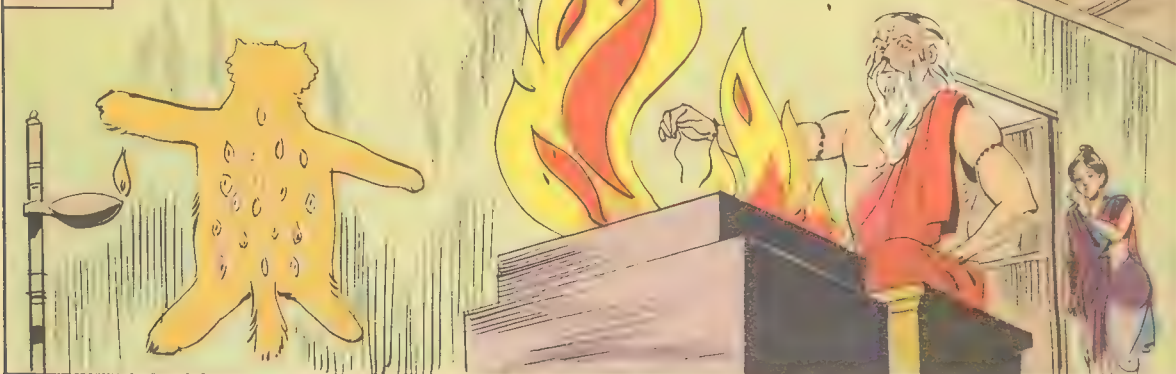
WHAT!

YAVAKRIDA FOUND
ME ALONE OUTSIDE
THE HERMITAGE
AND...

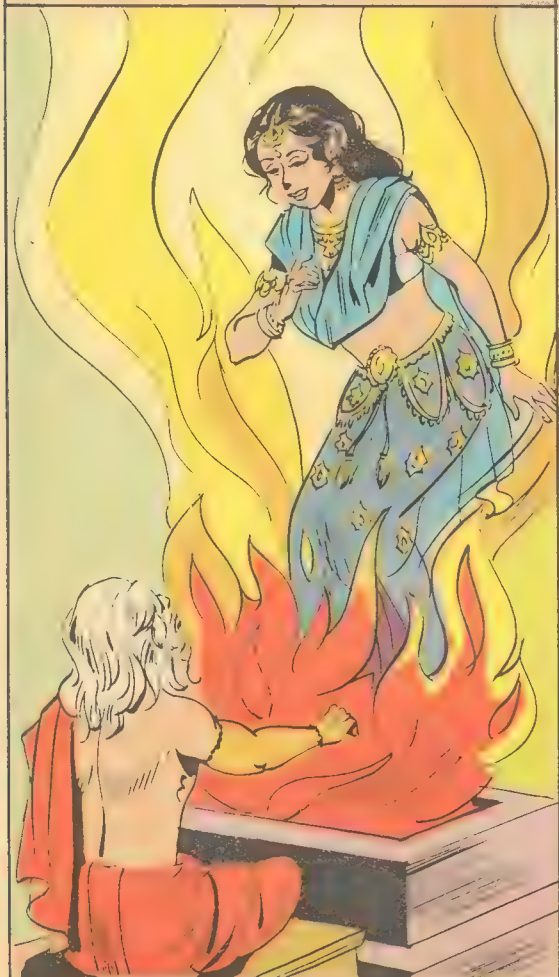
YAVAKRIDA, THE SON OF
MY FRIEND, HAS DARED
TO ACT THUS!

THE INSOLENT WRETCH
SHALL PAY FOR THIS
WITH HIS LIFE!

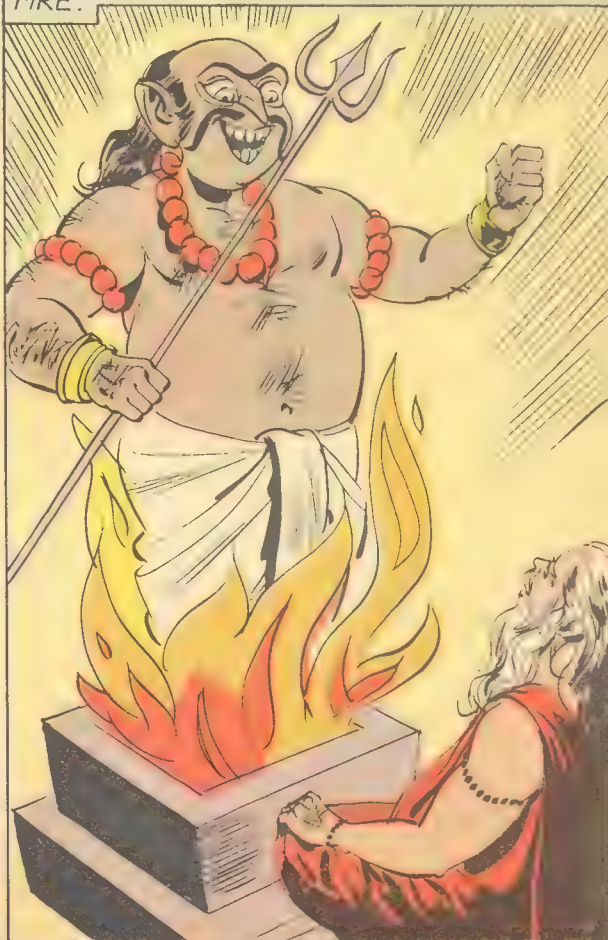
RAIBHYA RUSHED INTO HIS HERMITAGE IN A TOWERING RAGE. HE PLUCKED A HAIR FROM HIS HEAD AND CHANTING A MANTRA THREW IT INTO THE SACRIFICIAL FIRE...



...AND INSTANTANEOUSLY A BEAUTIFUL MAIDEN ROSE UP FROM THE FLAMES.

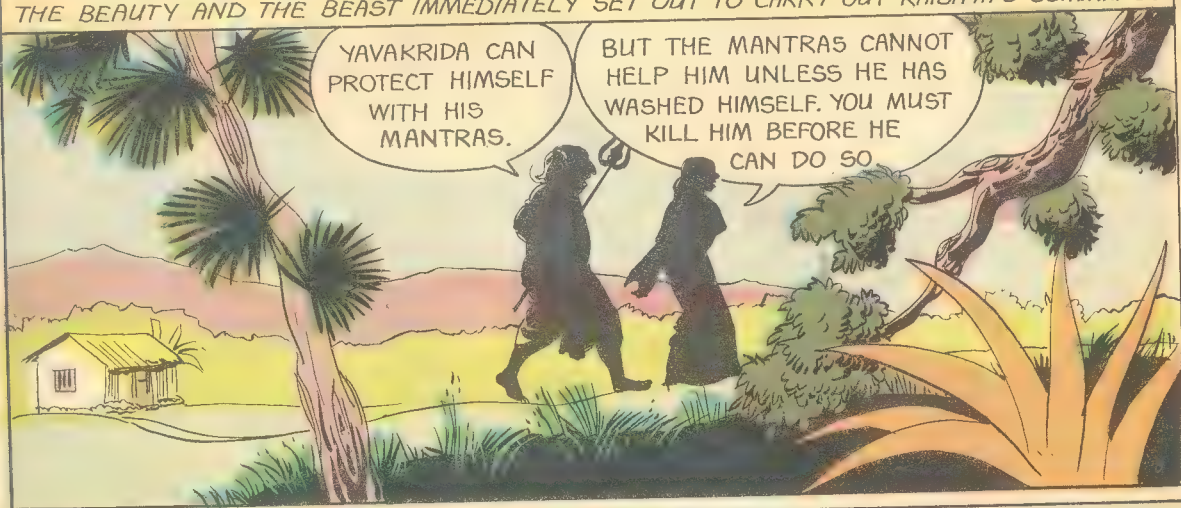


HE PLUCKED ANOTHER HAIR AND REPEATED THE PROCEDURE. THIS TIME A MONSTER WITH BLAZING EYES AND A FEARFUL FACE TOOK SHAPE IN THE FIRE.

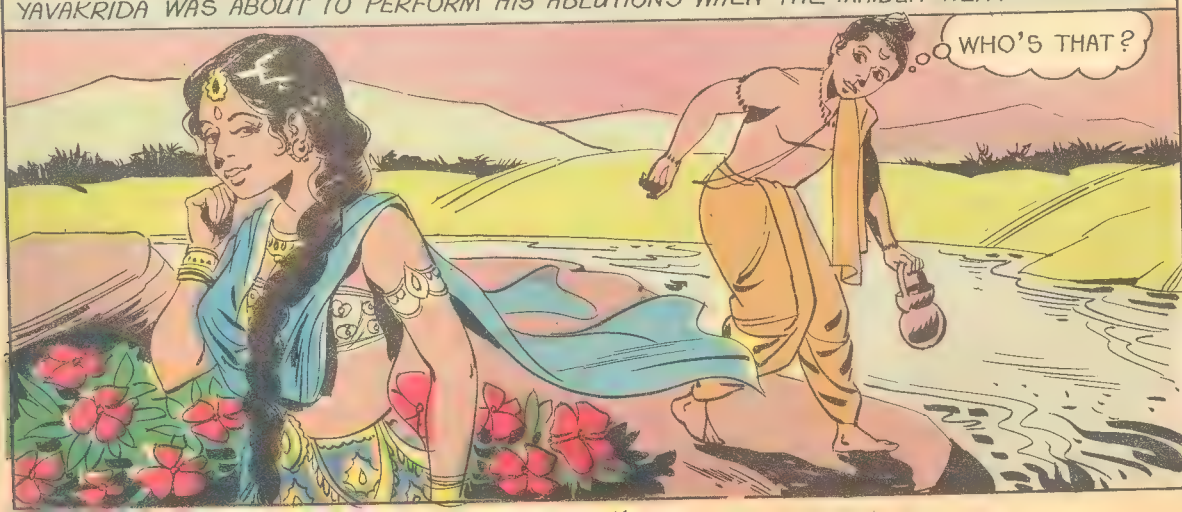




THE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST IMMEDIATELY SET OUT TO CARRY OUT RAIBHYA'S COMMAND.



YAVAKRIDA WAS ABOUT TO PERFORM HIS ABLUTIONS WHEN THE MAIDEN WENT PAST HIM.



YAVAKRIDA RUSHED AFTER THE MAIDEN.

STAY, FAIR ONE!



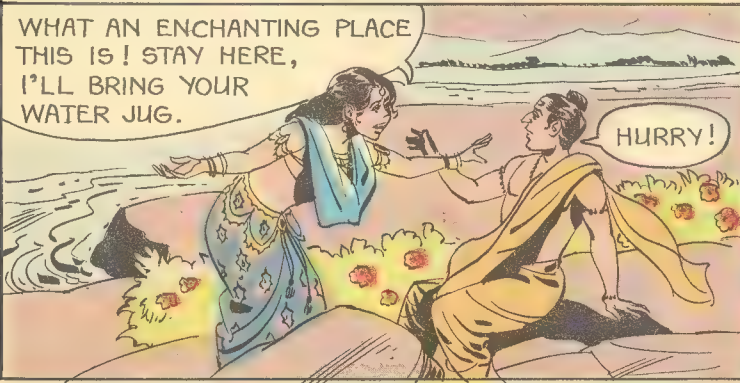
YOU'VE STOLEN MY HEART!

AND YOU, MINE!



WHAT AN ENCHANTING PLACE THIS IS! STAY HERE, I'LL BRING YOUR WATER JUG.

HURRY!



THE MAIDEN WENT AWAY AND YAVAKRIDA WAITED IMPATIENTLY FOR HER TO RETURN.

WHY IS SHE TAKING SO LONG?



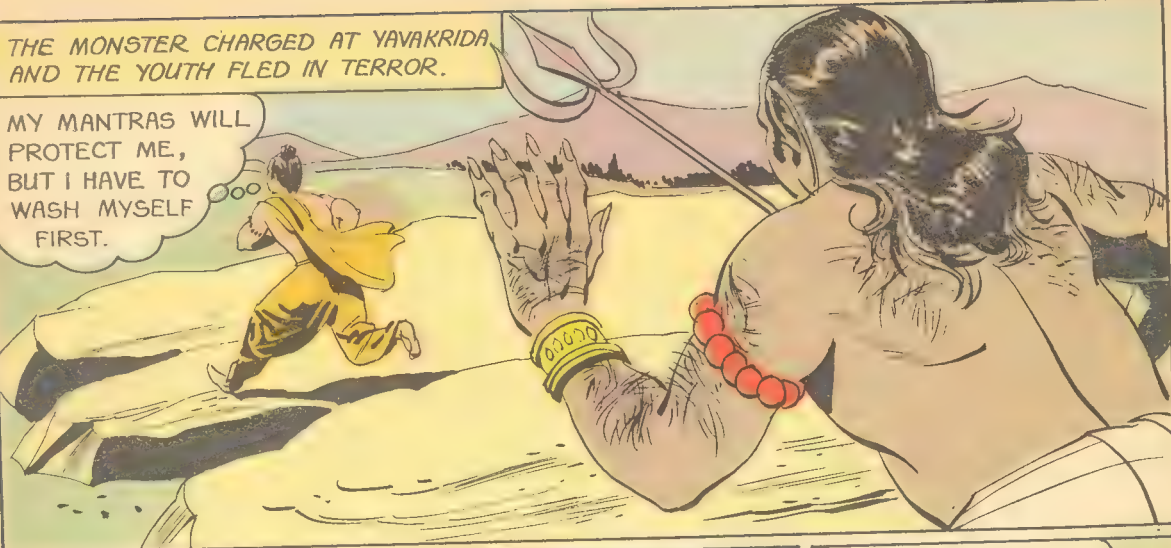
THEN SUDDENLY HE SAW THE MONSTER COMING TOWARDS HIM.

OH, MY GOD! THAT COULD ONLY BE ONE OF RAIBHYA'S CREATURES.



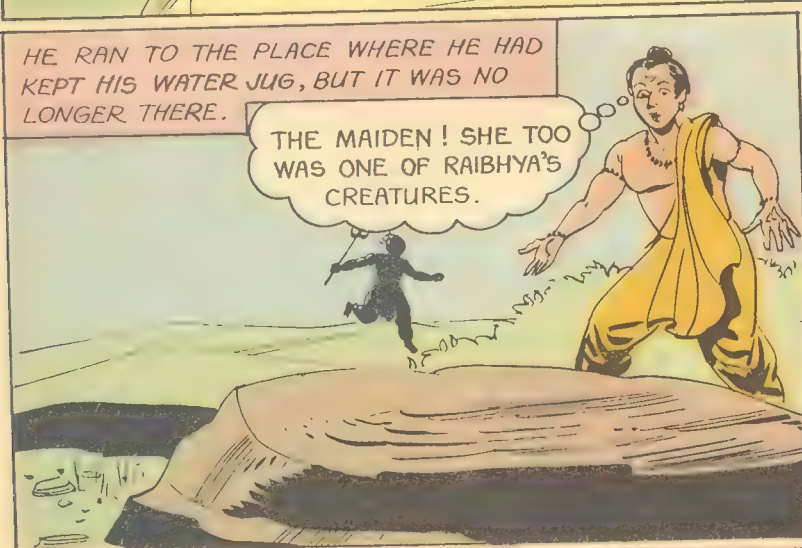
THE MONSTER CHARGED AT YAVAKRIDA
AND THE YOUTH FLED IN TERROR.

MY MANTRAS WILL
PROTECT ME,
BUT I HAVE TO
WASH MYSELF
FIRST.



HE RAN TO THE PLACE WHERE HE HAD
KEPT HIS WATER JUG, BUT IT WAS NO
LONGER THERE.

THE MAIDEN! SHE TOO
WAS ONE OF RAIBHYA'S
CREATURES.

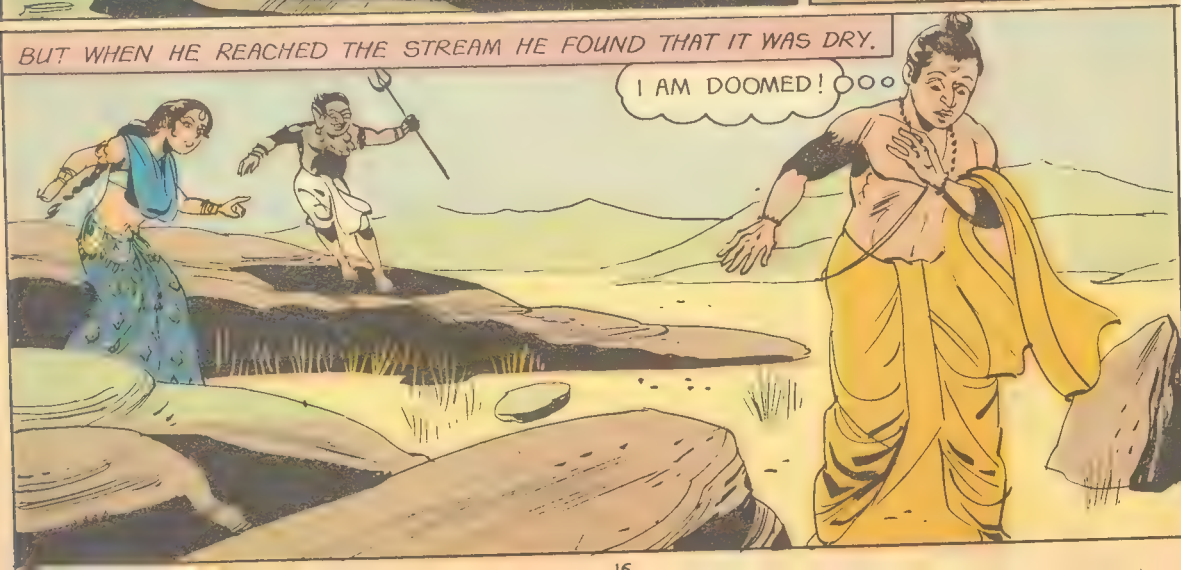


I WILL WASH MYSELF
IN THE STREAM.



BUT WHEN HE REACHED THE STREAM HE FOUND THAT IT WAS DRY.

I AM DOOMED!





BUT THE LAKE TOO WAS DRY.

WHAT AM I TO DO NOW?

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE ME FOR LONG.

I WILL SEEK REFUGE IN MY FATHER'S HERMITAGE. THIS MONSTER WILL NOT DARE FOLLOW ME IN THERE.

BHARADWAJA'S HERMITAGE WAS GUARDED BY A HALF-BLIND SENTRY.

WHO ARE YOU ? HOW DO YOU DARE TRY TO DISTURB MY MASTER ?

I AM YAVAKRIDA, THE SON OF YOUR MASTER.



YAVAKRIDA NOW REALIZED HIS FATHER'S WARNING TO HIM, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE. HOWEVER, HE PLEADED ONCE AGAIN —

PLEASE LET ME ENTER. I AM BEING CHASED BY A MONSTER... LOOK, THERE HE IS!

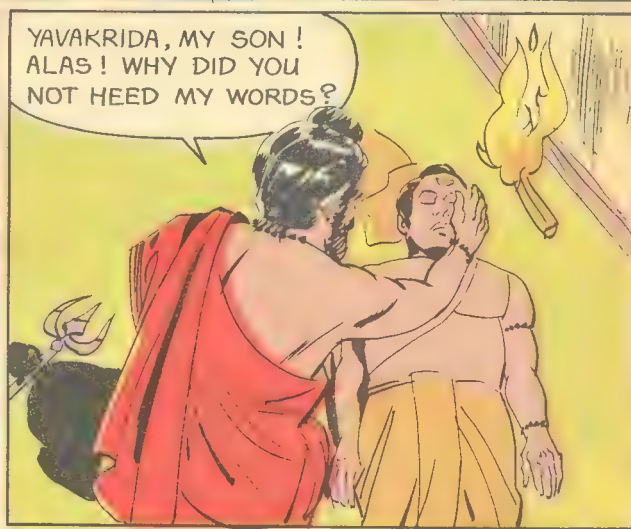
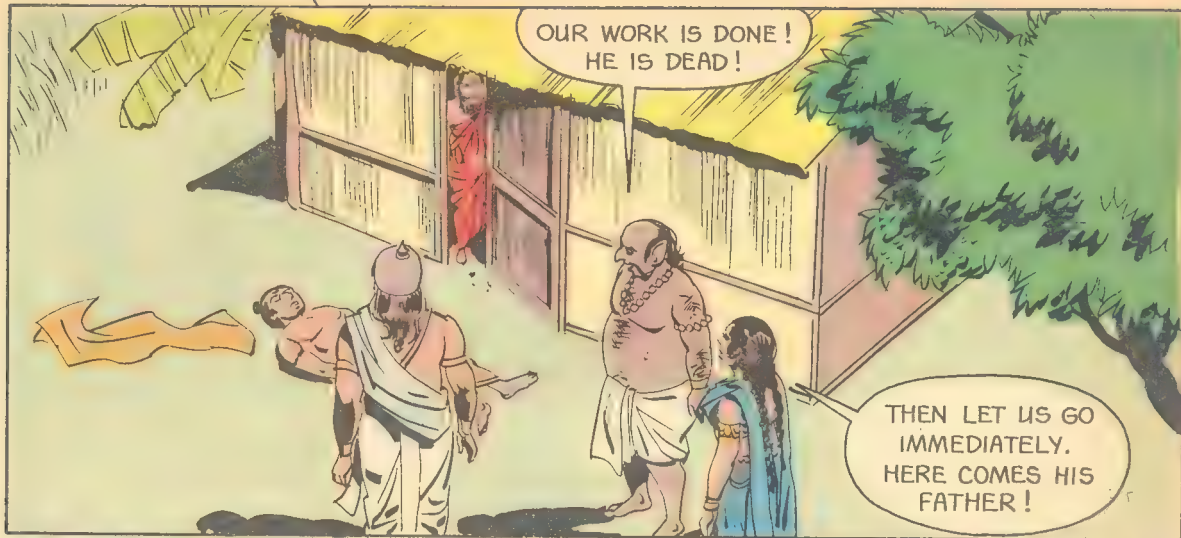
I CANNOT SEE ANY MONSTER.

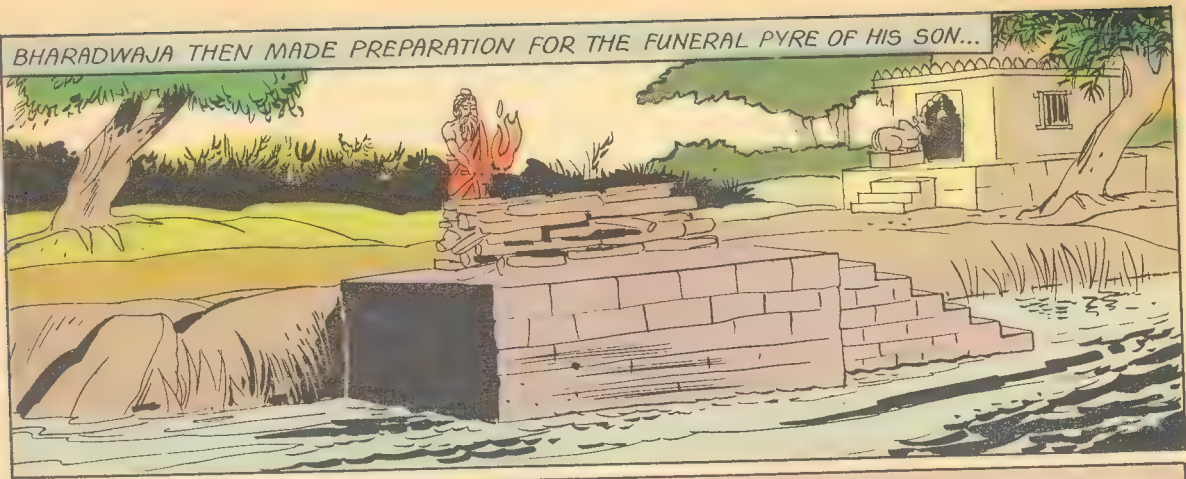
AND THE SENTRY WAS RIGHT FOR HE COULD SEE WITH ONLY ONE EYE WHICH WAS TURNED TOWARDS YAVAKRIDA.

AS YAVAKRIDA STRUGGLED WITH THE SENTRY, THE MONSTER CAME RUNNING UP AND PLUNGED HIS TRIDENT INTO THE STOMACH OF THE YOUTH.

ARRGH!

AND THE LEARNED YAVAKRIDA MET AN IGNOBLE DEATH DUE TO HIS PRIDE AND DISRESPECT TOWARDS OTHERS.





...BUT WHEN HE SAW HIS BODY BURNING HE COULD NO LONGER CONTROL HIS ANGER, THOUGH HE REPENTED FOR IT LATER ON.

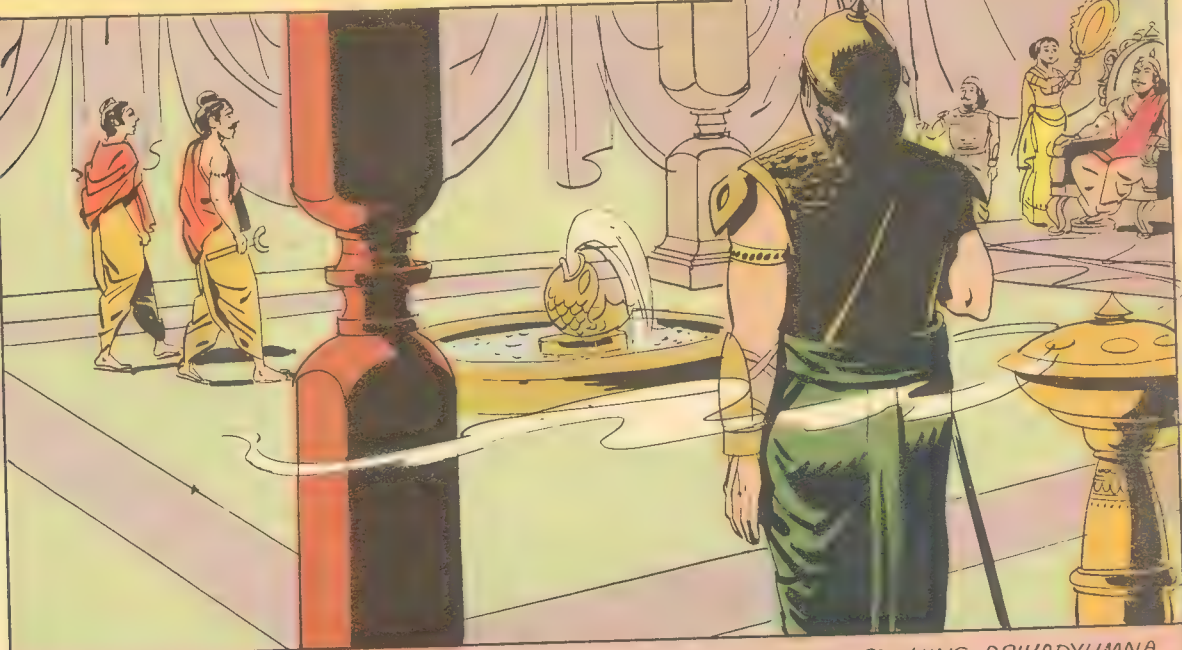
A CURSE ON YOU RAIBHYA!
MAY YOU DIE AT THE HANDS
OF ONE OF YOUR OWN SONS!

WHAT HAVE I DONE? I HAVE
CURSED MY DEAR FRIEND!
NOW TRULY, I HAVE
NOTHING TO LIVE FOR.

LET ME ALSO DIE ON
MY SON'S FUNERAL
PYRE.

AND BHARADWAJA IMMOLATED HIMSELF
ON THE FUNERAL PYRE.

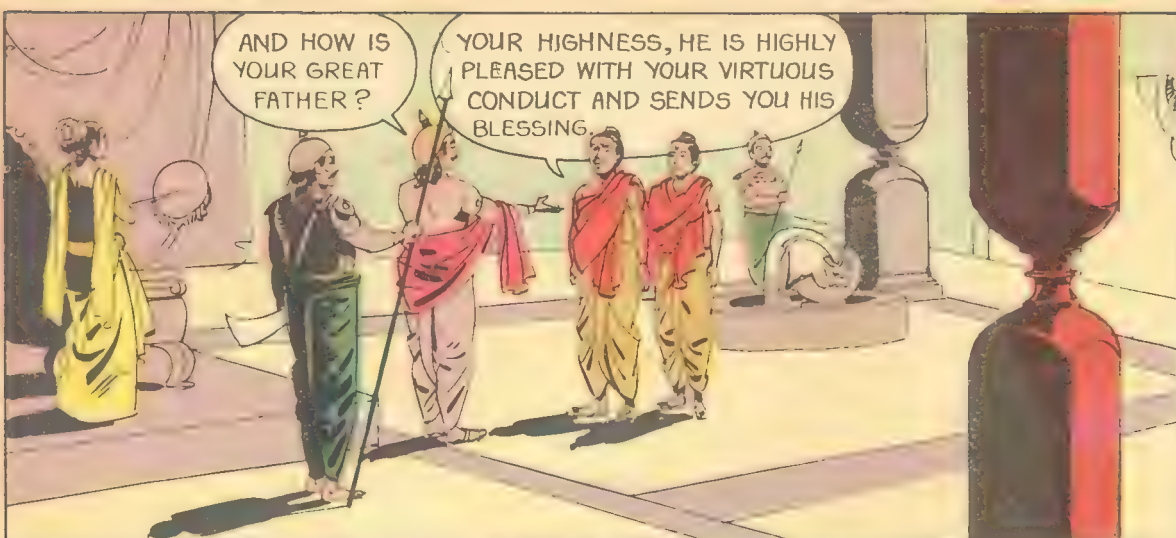
PARAVASU AND ARVAVASU



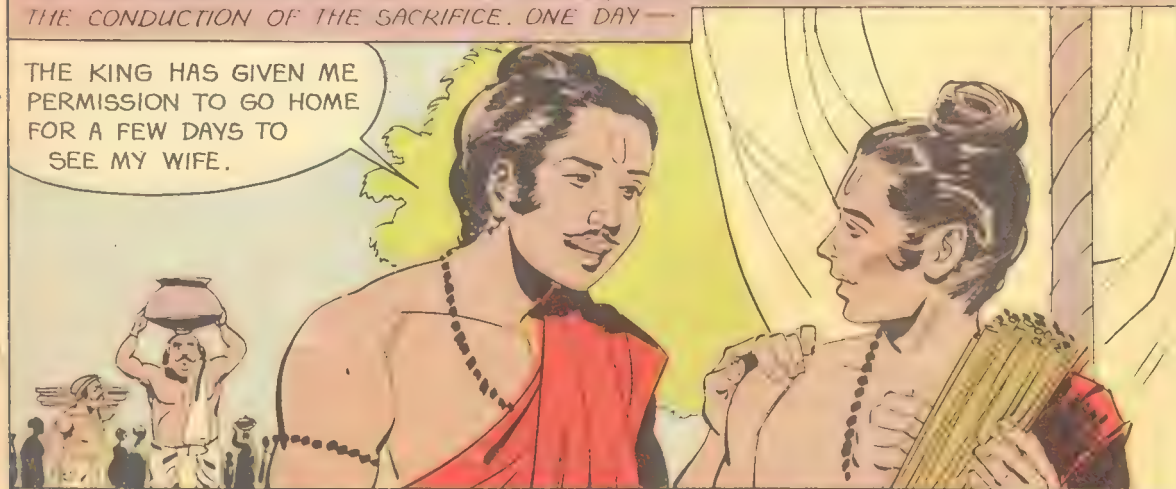
PARAVASU AND ARVAVASU, THE SONS OF SAGE RAIBHYA, WERE INVITED BY KING BRIHADYUMNA TO ASSIST IN THE PERFORMANCE OF A SACRIFICE.



WELCOME, O SONS OF
SAGE RAIBHYA! I AM
HONoured BY YOUR
PRESENCE.



THE TWO BROTHERS STAYED AT THE PALACE, MAKING SUITABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONDUCTION OF THE SACRIFICE. ONE DAY —





AFTER BIDDING FAREWELL TO HIS BROTHER, PARAVASU SET OUT THAT EVENING.





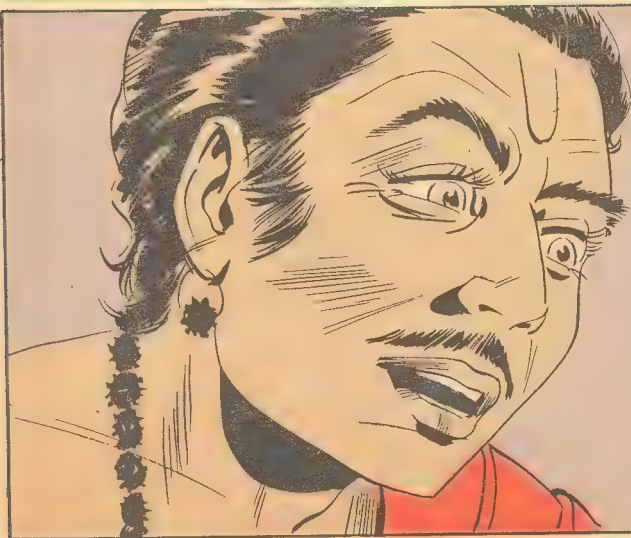
PARAVASU LIFTED HIS SPEAR AND FLUNG IT INTO THE BUSHES.

WHAT HAVE I DONE ? I DO NOT HEAR AN ANIMAL'S VOICE.

AHHA..!



THAT...THAT SOUNDED LIKE A MAN !





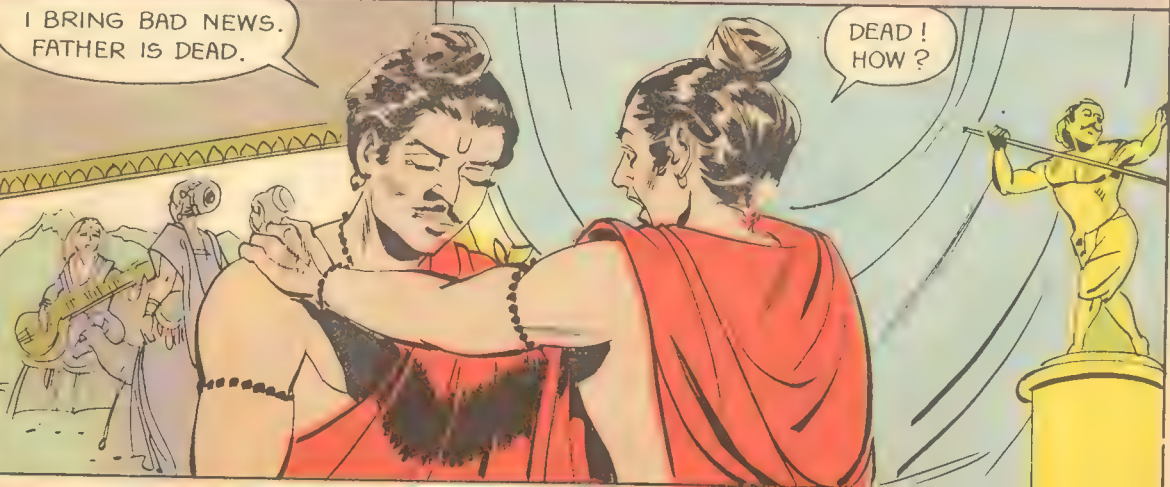
THIS MUST BE THE EFFECT
OF BHARADWAJA'S CURSE.
I HAVE KILLED MY FATHER
WITH MY OWN HANDS.

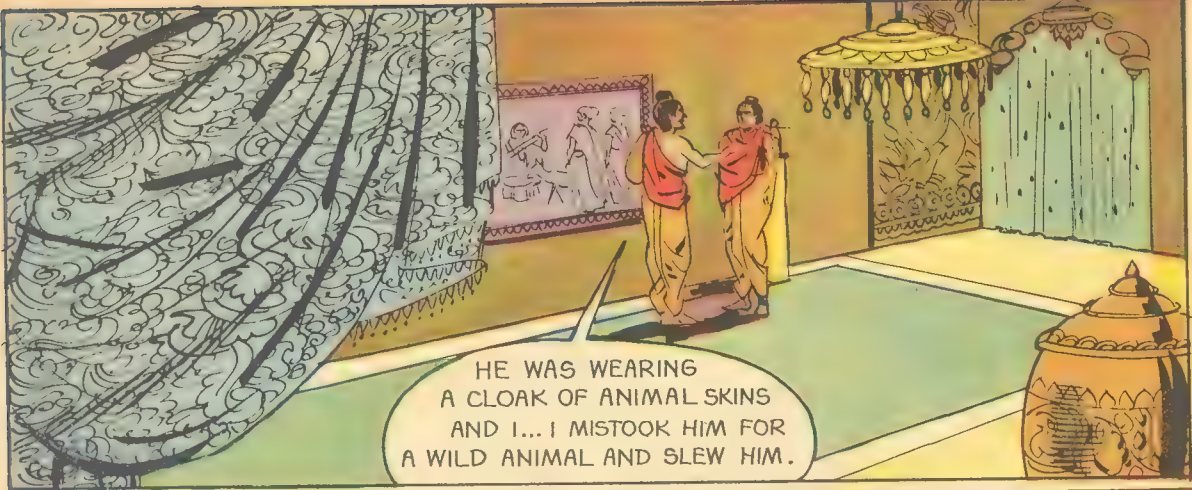


PARVASU CREMATED HIS FATHER AND HURRIED BACK TO THE PALACE.

I BRING BAD NEWS.
FATHER IS DEAD.

DEAD!
HOW?

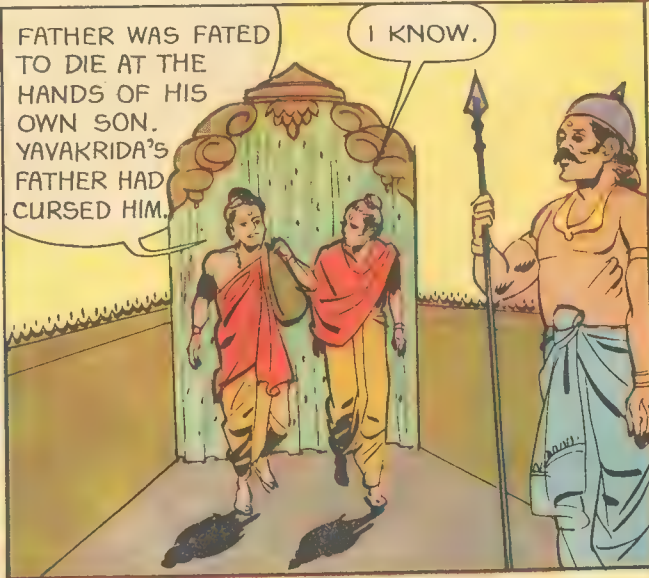




THE DEED IS DONE. DO NOT
BLAME YOURSELF
TOO MUCH.



FATHER WAS FATED
TO DIE AT THE
HANDS OF HIS
OWN SON.
YAVAKRIDA'S
FATHER HAD
CURSED HIM.



BUT NOW I HAVE HIS
BLOOD ON MY HANDS.
I HAVE SINNED AND
MUST GO AWAY FROM
HERE AND DO
PENANCE.

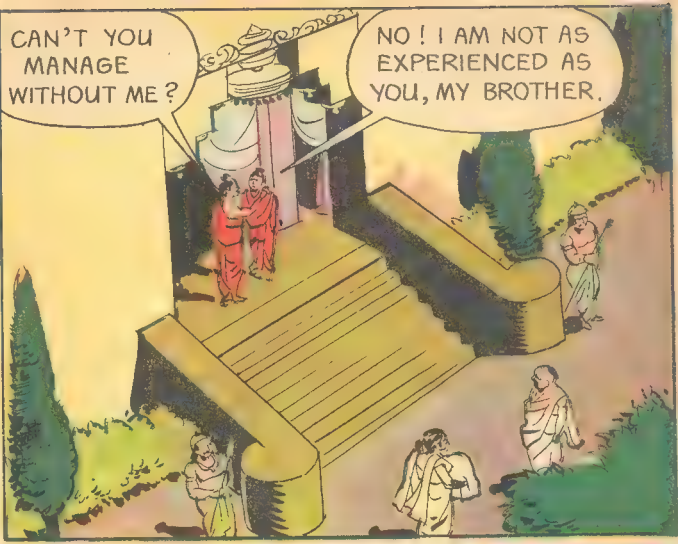


YOU CANNOT GO AWAY NOW.
YOU HAVE TO OFFICIATE
AT THE KING'S
SACRIFICE.

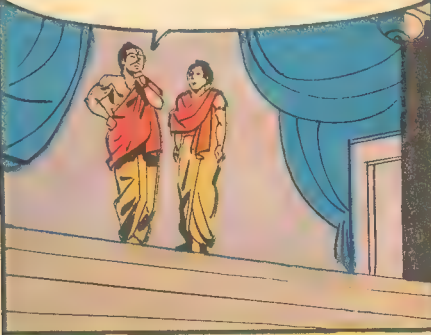


CAN'T YOU
MANAGE
WITHOUT ME ?

NO ! I AM NOT AS
EXPERIENCED AS
YOU, MY BROTHER.

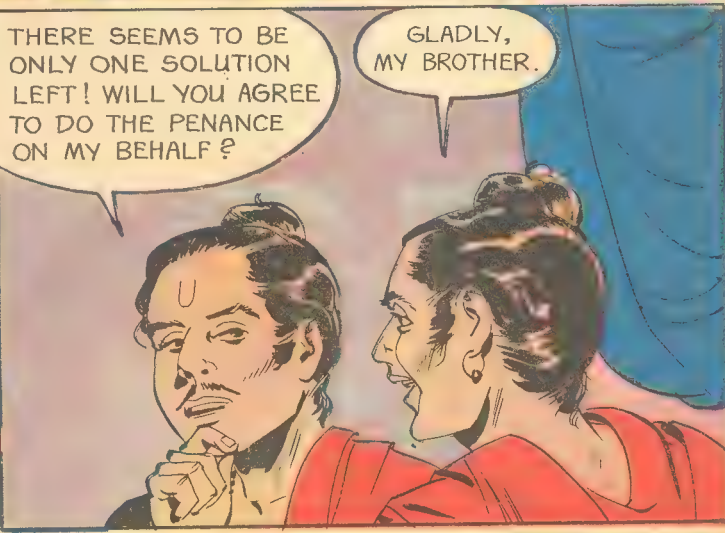


WE ARE BOTH IN A QUANDARY.
THE KING'S SACRIFICE MUST
BE SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED
AND AT THE SAME TIME THERE
MUST BE AN EXPIATION OF THE
SIN OF KILLING A FATHER.



THERE SEEMS TO BE
ONLY ONE SOLUTION
LEFT ! WILL YOU AGREE
TO DO THE PENANCE
ON MY BEHALF ?

GLADLY,
MY BROTHER.



I WILL LEAVE IMMEDIATELY
AND RETURN IN TIME TO
JOIN YOU AT THE
SACRIFICE.



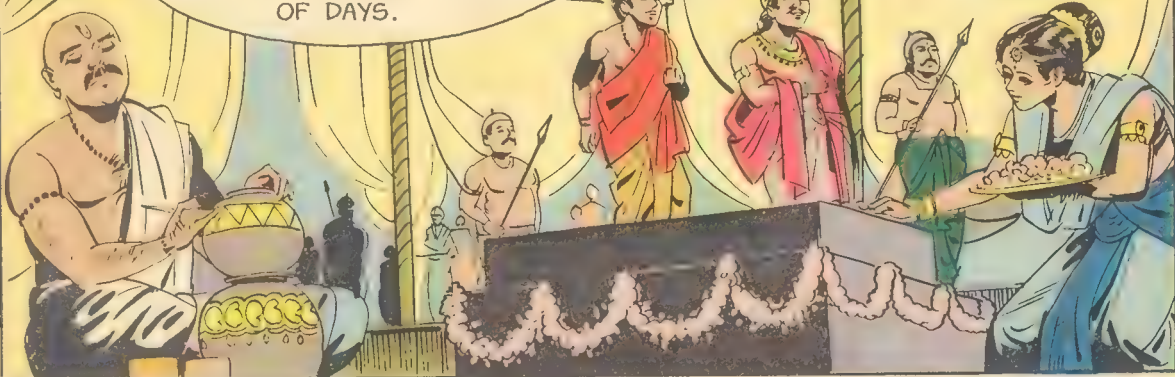
ARVAVASU LEFT THE PALACE
AND WENT INTO THE FOREST
TO DO PENANCE ON BEHALF
OF HIS BROTHER.



WHEN THE TIME FOR THE KING'S SACRIFICE DREW NEAR—

EVERYTHING IS READY FOR THE SACRIFICE. IT CAN BE COMMENCED DURING THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS.

GOOD! I HAVE BEEN WAITING EAGERLY FOR THE AUSPICIOUS EVENT.



SUDDENLY—

LOOK, PARAVASU, ISN'T THAT YOUR BROTHER?



YES, IT IS TRUE.

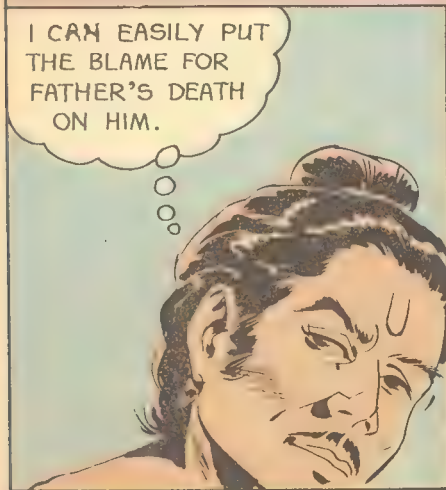
PARAVASU'S SIN HAD NOT BEEN WASHED OFF.

SO HE HAS RETURNED AFTER ALL.



WHEN HE SAW HIS VIRTUOUS BROTHER AN EVIL THOUGHT CAME TO HIS MIND —

I CAN EASILY PUT THE BLAME FOR FATHER'S DEATH ON HIM.



STOP HIM! DON'T LET HIM STEP ON THIS SACRED GROUND. HE HAS THE BLOOD OF A BRAHMANA ON HIS HANDS!



WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, PARAVASU? IT IS YOU WHO KILLED FATHER, NOT I.

HE IS NOT ONLY A MURDERER BUT ALSO A LIAR.

I AM BLAMELESS, O KING. HE SENT ME AWAY TO DO PENANCE ON HIS BEHALF.

WHAT A STORY!

TAKE HIM AWAY!

NO. I AM INNOCENT.

ARVAVASU'S PROTESTS WERE IN VAIN. THE GUARDS DRAGGED HIM AWAY AND THREW HIM OUT OF THE PALACE GROUNDS.

OUT, MURDERER!

ONE CANNOT TRUST EVEN ONE'S OWN BROTHER IN THIS WORLD. HENCEFORTH I SHALL DEVOTE MYSELF SOLELY TO GOD.

ARVAVASU RETURNED TO THE FOREST AND BECAME
AN ARDENT DEVOTEE OF SURYA, THE SUN GOD.

SURYA WAS PLEASED —

I MUST REWARD
HIM FOR HIS
DEVOTION.



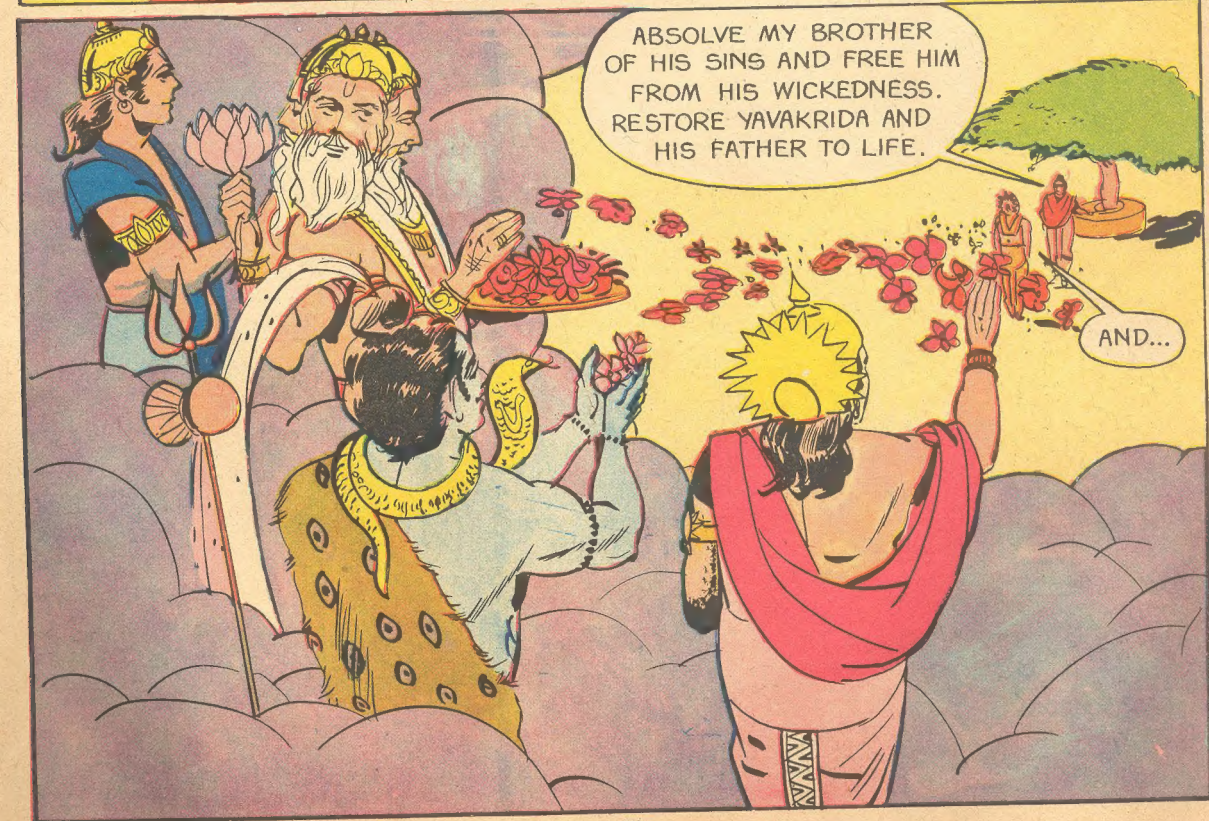
WHAT DO YOU SEEK,
O BRAHMANA? ASK
FOR THREE BOONS
AND I SHALL GRANT
THEM TO YOU.





THEN, O LORD,
RESTORE MY FATHER
TO LIFE AND LET HIM
NOT REMEMBER
HIS DEATH.

The scene is set on a sandy beach with a body of water in the background. A man in a red robe is seen from the back, gesturing with his hands in a pleading manner towards a deity. The deity, wearing a crown with a sunburst and a yellow dhoti with a flame emblem, stands with a serene expression. In the distance, two white horses are harnessed together. On a rocky outcrop in the background, several figures are visible, including a prominent three-headed deity holding various symbolic objects.



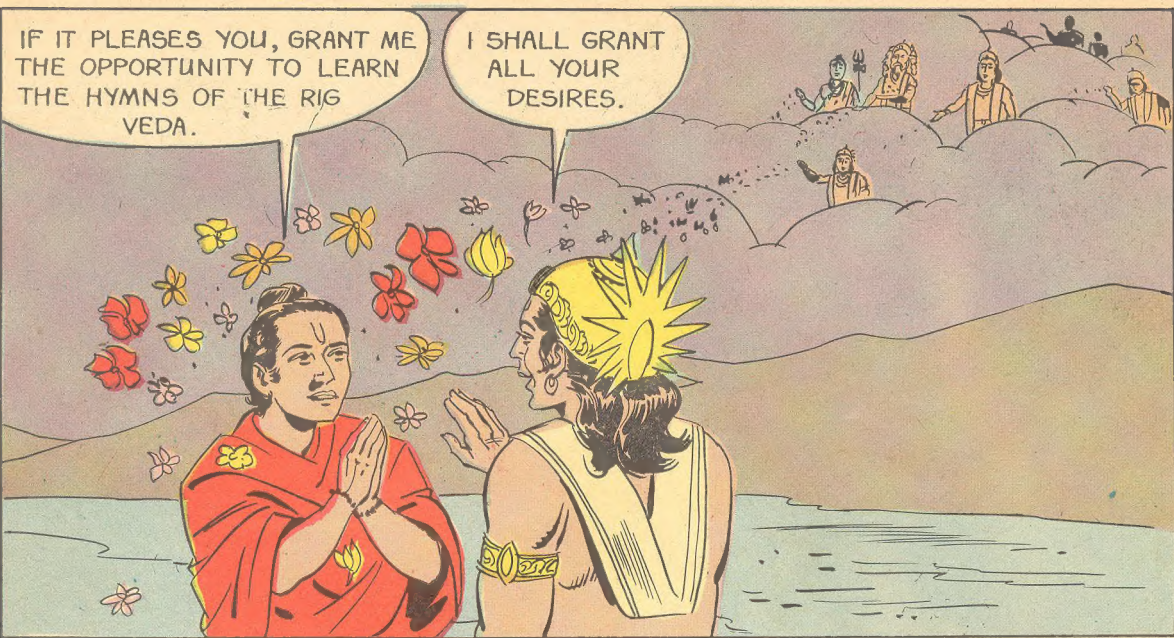
ABSOLVE MY BROTHER
OF HIS SINS AND FREE HIM
FROM HIS WICKEDNESS.
RESTORE YAVAKRIDA AND
HIS FATHER TO LIFE.

The scene transitions to a rocky landscape. A deity, adorned with a crown and a peacock-patterned robe, is performing a ritual. He holds a golden bowl filled with red flowers, from which he is scattering petals. A woman in a blue sari stands to the left, holding a lotus flower. In the foreground, a man in a red robe, seen from behind, has his hands raised in a gesture of devotion. In the background, two figures are visible near a small pond or well. A speech bubble from the man in the red robe contains the text "AND...".

AND...

IF IT PLEASES YOU, GRANT ME
THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN
THE HYMNS OF THE RIG
VEDA.

I SHALL GRANT
ALL YOUR
DESIRES.



THEREUPON, RAIBHYA, BHARADWAJA AND YAVAKRIDA CAME BACK
TO LIFE. AND YAVAKRIDA HAD A QUESTION TO ASK —

O LORD ! HOW
WAS RAIBHYA
ABLE TO SLAY
ME THOUGH
I HAD AS MUCH
KNOWLEDGE
AS HIM ?

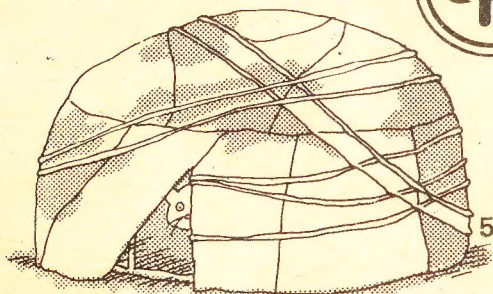
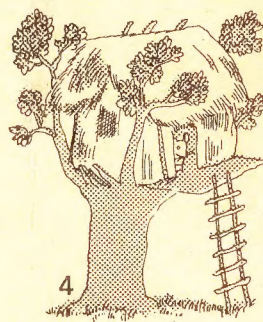
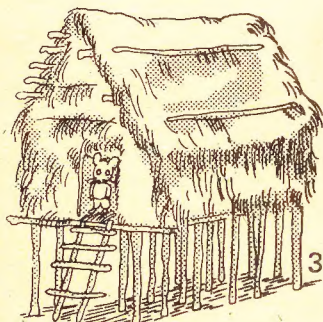
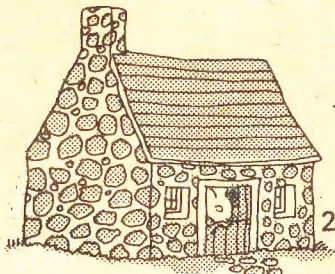
YOU ACQUIRED THE KNOWLEDGE IN AN
EASY WAY, WHEREAS RAIBHYA ACQUIRED
HIS THROUGH DISCIPLINE WHICH HAD
BECOME A PART AND PARCEL OF HIS
DAILY CONDUCT IN LIFE. THEREFORE
WAS HE MORE POWERFUL THAN
YOU, O BRAHMANA. THEREFORE
WAS HE ABLE TO SLAY YOU.





Around the world with BOB!

Match houses to people!



Open a Minor's Savings Account.

Saving is a good habit.



Bank of Baroda

(A Government of India Undertaking)

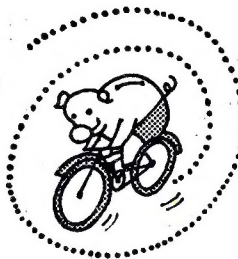
Answers 1. The igloo, home of the Eskimos of North America. Its unique entrance keeps the warmth in, wild bears out. 2. The stone house of the Europeans. Moisture cannot spoil it. 3. The tall still house of the South-East Asians. Safe against crocodiles, cool in summer. 4. The tree house of the Africans. Comfortable and safe from the wild animals. 5. The camel-skin tent of the Arabs. Protection in sandstorms. 6. The mud and grass house of the West Africans. Keeps cool even in the hot sun.

TRING TRRRING RING!...

Bachat Kumar rides to school on a new red bike.



Bachat Kumar is going to school. Look at him! Round and round he goes, Tring trrrring ring!



'Oh what a beautiful, beautiful bike!' says Bhola with a tear in his eye.



And the bully Babbar Sher roars with envy.

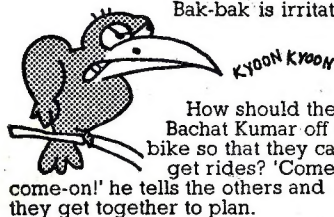


Go to class you show-off!
And leave your silly bike behind.



'No-no-no!' squeals Bachat Kumar
'This is my new red bike
No one but me will ride
It's bought with my own money
I've been saving in my tummy!'

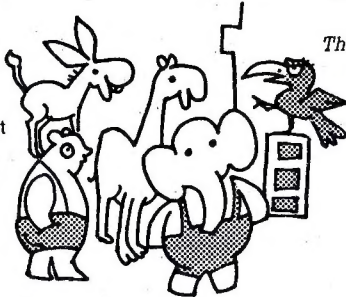
Bak-bak is irritated.



KYOON KYOON

How should they get Bachat Kumar off that bike so that they can all get rides? 'Come-on, come-on!' he tells the others and they get together to plan.

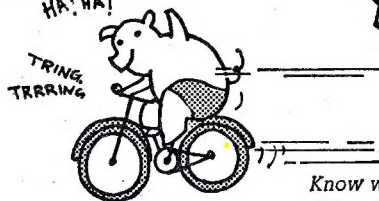
HA! HA!



This is what they decide:

Lambooji will chase Bachat Kumar. As soon as Bachat Kumar gets to the corner, Bak bak will give a warning whistle.

Then Petu will block the way. And Tattu Singh will give a kick! Off he'll go—and the bike will be all theirs.

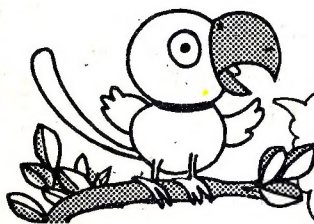


Know what happened?

When Lambooji started chasing Bachat Kumar, he took off on his new red bike. Faster than anybody could think. Faster than a wink.

Mithu-kaka had been watching all this happen from his tree. He opened one eye and spoke:

Come along children.
Save your money and have more fun.



Save with State Bank.
And watch your savings grow!



State Bank
Let's come closer